

Bylaws

Of Lighthouse Bible Church of Riverton

Adopted this 19th day of December 2010

PREFACE: As a new and growing church body it is our desire to follow the below listed articles while recognizing that some of them are inherently more applicable than others due to our present size and growth.

ARTICLE 1. NAME

The name of this Corporation is Lighthouse Bible Church of Riverton, Wyoming, State of Wyoming.

ARTICLE 2. PURPOSE

The Corporation is organized for exclusively religious purposes as defined by the Scriptures and shall have the right to govern itself according to the standards of the New Testament Scriptures and,

To establish and maintain a place of worship and,

To proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ everywhere and,

To establish such departments as may be necessary for the propagation of the gospel and the support of missionary activity and,

To provide Christian education to all ages and,

To purchase, receive, lease, take by gift, or otherwise acquire, own, hold, improve, use and otherwise deal in and with real and personal property, or any interest therein, wherever situated and,

To sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, transfer and otherwise dispose of all, or any part of, its property and assets and,

To borrow money, contract debts and issue notes, bonds, bills or evidences of indebtedness to secure the payment or performance of its obligations.

ARTICLE 3. PROPERTY AND DEBTS

This Corporation shall have the right to purchase or acquire by gift, bequest, or other means, either directly or as a trustee, and to own, hold in trust, sell, convey, mortgage, lease, or otherwise dispose of any real estate or chattel as may be necessary for the furtherance of its purposes, all in accordance with Article 2 of these bylaws.

ARTICLE 4. STATEMENT OF FAITH (What we believe and teach)

The statement of faith (what we believe and teach) of this Corporation is that which is articulated in the Articles of Incorporation as filed in the Office of the Secretary of State of the State of Wyoming and enumerated in the Statement of Faith document.

ARTICLE 5. CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

The Corporation shall have no members. Any action which would otherwise require approval by a majority of all members shall only require approval of the Board of Elders. All rights which would otherwise vest in the members shall vest in the Board of Elders.

ARTICLE 6. CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Lighthouse Bible church is open to all persons who confess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and give evidence of their saving faith and have been baptized by immersion. In addition, they must voluntarily subscribe to the churches statement of faith and agree to be governed by its Articles and Bylaws.

ARTICLE 7. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

All requests for membership shall be made to a Pastor, Elder or Deacon. Upon making such a request, the person shall be given an application for membership, along with a copy of the Statement of Faith contained in the Articles of Incorporation and a copy of the Bylaws. A Pastor, Elder, or Deacon shall meet with the applicant following receipt of the application. In addition to Article 6, each applicant must be regular in attendance at Lighthouse Bible Church for at least 6 months and have signed the membership covenant.

Each applicant shall share their testimony with an appointed group of Elders and any Deacon representative present and then later before the church at a regularly held meeting for prospective members.

Any questions about or disagreements with the Statement of Faith or Bylaws must be indicated on the membership application or in person to the Pastor, Elder or Deacon. A duly appointed Committee will evaluate these questions or disagreements to determine whether the request for membership will be approved.

ARTICLE 8. DENIAL OF MEMBERSHIP

If, upon review of an application for membership or after meeting with a prospective member, the Board of Elders determines that the applicant does not confess Jesus Christ as his or her Lord and Savior, or does not meet other criteria in Article 6, or that there is lack of evidence of a godly lifestyle, membership can be denied. The decision of the Board of Elders shall be final and there shall be no appeal of the decision.

ARTICLE 9. VOTING PRIVILEGES

Membership in this church shall not vest in any member any proprietary rights in the Corporation, but shall entitle the member to vote at a meeting of the members on those matters that the Board of Elders chooses to submit to the church membership for affirmation. In such cases, voting privileges are restricted to members who are in good standing (as defined in the Articles of Membership), who are not under any disciplinary action, and who have passed their sixteenth (20) birthday.

ARTICLE 10. RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS

Members shall seek to exercise their spiritual gifts for the mutual benefit of all the church body. Membership shall submit to the leadership of the Elders.

ARTICLE 11. DISCIPLINE OF CHURCH MEMBERS

The threefold purpose of church discipline is to glorify God by maintaining purity in the local church (1 Corinthians 5:6 - 7), to edify believers by deterring sin (1 Timothy 5:20, Matthew 18: ;17), and to promote restoration and the spiritual welfare of the offending believer by calling him or her to return to a biblical standard of doctrine and conduct (Galatians 6:1).

Members of this church and all other professing Christians who regularly attend or fellowship with this church who err in doctrine, or who engage in conduct that violates Scripture as determined by the Board of Elders, shall be subject to church discipline, including dismissal according to Matthew 18:15-18. Before such dismissal, however, (1) it shall be the duty of any member of this church who has knowledge of the erring individual's heresy or misconduct to warn and correct such erring individual in private, seeking his or her repentance and restoration. If the erring individual does not heed this warning, then (2) the warning member shall again go to the erring individual, seeking his or her repentance, but accompanied by one or two individuals who shall confirm that the sin has occurred or is continuing to occur, and/or that the erring individual has been appropriately confronted and has refused to repent. The first and second warnings may occur with no specified time interval. If the erring individual still refuses to heed this warning, then (3) it shall be brought to the attention of the Board of Elders (or a duly appointed Committee or Board).

If the Board of Elders (or a duly appointed Committee or Board) determines, after thorough investigation in accord with the procedures prescribed by pertinent Scripture, including Matthew 18:15-18 and 1 Timothy 5:19, that there is corroborating evidence that the erring individual has sinned or is continuing to sin, that he or she has been appropriately confronted, and that he or she has refused to repent, then the Elders shall inform the church and the congregation thereof at a regularly scheduled worship service in order that the church may call the erring individual to repentance.

If the erring individual demonstrates repentance, then notice to that effect may be given at a regularly scheduled worship service. If, however, the erring individual does not repent in response to the church in its collective call to repentance, then (4) he or she shall be publicly dismissed from the fellowship and/or membership of the church and the congregation thereof at a regularly scheduled worship service. If the erring individual, after such dismissal, heeds the warning, demonstrates repentance, and requests reinstatement before the Board of Elders (or a duly appointed Committee or Board), then he or she shall be publicly restored to all the rights, duties, privileges, and responsibilities of fellowship and/or membership.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Elders in the exercise of their discretion may proceed directly to the third stage of church discipline, (i.e. the informing of the church and the congregation thereof at a regularly scheduled worship service in order that the church may call the erring individual to repentance) or to the fourth stage of church discipline, (i.e. the dismissal from the fellowship and/or membership of the church) when one or more of the following have occurred:

(i) Where the transgression and the refusal to repent have been public, i.e. openly and to the offense of the whole Church (1 Cor. 5:1-5)

(ii) Where the disciplined party has taught or otherwise disseminated doctrine deemed false or erroneous by the elders, then chosen to disregard the direction and reproof of the elders (Romans 16:17); or

(iii) Where the disciplined party has been warned twice to cease from factious and divisive conduct and has chosen to disregard that warning (Titus 3:10-11).

The members of this church, and all other professing Christians who regularly attend or fellowship with this church, agree that there shall be no appeal to any court because of the dismissal or because of public statements to the congregation at the third or fourth stages of church discipline. Members who are under discipline by the church, as defined in the previous paragraphs, forfeit and waive the right to resign from this church. Resignations from membership are possible only by members who are in good standing and who are not under any disciplinary action.

Separate and apart from the process of church discipline, but subject to the discretion and approval of the Elders (or a duly appointed committee or Board), a member, non-member regular attender, or other individual may be notified that he or she is not to be present upon church premises for such a period of time as is deemed necessary for the safety and well-being of others on church premises. Such required absence may, but need not, be concurrent with church discipline of that person.

Separate and apart from the process of church discipline, but subject to the discretion and approval of the elders (or a duly appointed committee or Board), the names of any members who have not attended for a period of six months or longer may be removed from the membership rolls. They will be notified prior to removal for opportunity to clarify.

ARTICLE 12 REGULAR CHURCH MEETINGS

A regular annual meeting of the church members shall be held once a year. At such regular annual meetings, the members shall consider reports about the Church and transact such other business as the Elders determine shall be brought before the meeting, including but not limited to affirmation of the appointments made by the Elders of those who shall serve as Elders the following year and the election of those qualified in the offices of Deacon's Deaconesses and other offices as instituted.

ARTICLE 13

SPECIAL CHURCH MEETINGS

Special meetings of the members may be called at any time by order of the Pastor-Teacher, the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Board of Elders, or by a quorum of the members of the Board of Elders. Notice of regular meetings shall be given from the pulpit by the Pastor for two successive Sundays prior to the meeting. In addition thereto, notice shall be published in the regular church bulletin (**if a bulletin is in print**) for two successive Sundays prior to such meeting.

Notice of special meetings shall be given from the pulpit at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting and shall also be published in the regular church bulletin (**if a bulletin is in print**) on the Sunday immediately preceding the meeting.

ARTICLE 14

QUORUM

At all meetings of the members, whether regular or special, the members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE 15

ELDERS

Subject to the limitations of the Articles and these Bylaws, all the activities and affairs of the Corporation shall be exercised by or under the direction of the Board of Elders, who are responsible for shepherding and having oversight of the flock. Without prejudice to such general powers, but subject to these same limitations, it is hereby expressly declared that the Board shall have the following powers in addition to the other powers enumerated by these Bylaws:

- (a) To select and remove all the officers, agents, pastors, staff, and employees of the Corporation; prescribe such duties for them consistent with the Scriptures, with law, with the Articles of Incorporation, or with these Bylaws; and fix the terms of their offices and their compensation.
- (b) To make such disbursements from the funds and properties of the Corporation as are required to fulfill the purposes of this Corporation as are more fully set out in the Articles of Incorporation, thereof and generally to conduct, manage, and control the activities and affairs of the Corporation and to make such rules and regulations consistent with the Scriptures, with law, with the Articles of Incorporation, or with these Bylaws, as they may deem best.
- (c) To establish policies and practices for the church consistent with the purposes of this Corporation.
- (d) To assist the Pastor-Teacher in the administration of the ordinances of baptism and Communion.
- (e) To borrow money and incur indebtedness for the purposes of the Corporation and to cause to be executed and delivered, in the corporate name, promissory notes, bonds, debentures, deeds of trust, mortgages, pledges, hypothecations, or other evidences of debt and securities.

ARTICLE 16

NUMBER OF ELDERS

The authorized number of Elders of the Corporation shall be determined on a yearly basis until a minimum number can be established or until changed by an amendment to the Articles of Incorporation or by an amendment to these Bylaws.

ARTICLE 17

NOMINATION, SELECTION AND TENURE OF ELDERS

Recommendations to fill the office of Elder shall be requested once a year from all church members. A nominating committee consisting of the Elder Board shall review the application/qualifications and shall publicly post the nominees approved at least three weeks prior to the annual meeting of the church members. At this meeting, the slate of nominees shall be presented to the members to affirm the decision of the Elders. If the slate of nominees is affirmed, the newly elected Elders shall assume office immediately. Each Elder shall be affirmed at the annual meeting. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an elder may be selected at any time and begin to serve immediately with final affirmation to come at the next annual meeting.

ARTICLE 18

QUALIFICATIONS OF ELDERS

Each member of the Board of Elders must be an active member of this church and possess the qualifications described in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9. He shall be:

- (a) Blameless as a steward of God; above reproach (1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:6-7)
- (b) Husband of one wife; a one-woman man (1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:6)
- (c) Temperate, sober, vigilant (1 Timothy 3:2)
- (d) Sober-minded, prudent (1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:8)
- (e) Of good behavior; orderly, respectable (1 Timothy 3:2)
- (f) Given to hospitality (1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:8)
- (g) Apt to teach; able to teach; he can exhort believers and refute false teaching (1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:9)
- (h) Not given to wine (1 Timothy 3:3; Titus 1:7)
- (i) Not violent; not pugnacious (1 Timothy 3:3, Titus 1:7)
- (j) Patient, moderate, forbearing, gentle (1 Timothy 3:3)
- (k) Not a brawler; uncontentious; not soon angry or quick-tempered (1 Timothy 3:3; Titus 1:7)
- (l) Not covetous; not a lover of money; not greedy of base gain (1 Timothy 3:3, Titus 1:7)
- (m) Rules well his own house; his children are believers, not accused of rebellion to God (1 Timothy 3:4; Titus 1:7)
- (n) Not a novice; not a new convert (1 Timothy 3:6)
- (o) Has a good report or reputation with outsiders (1 Timothy 3:7)
- (p) Not self-willed (Titus 1:7)
- (q) A lover of good men and things (Titus 1:8)
- (r) Just, fair (Titus 1:8)
- (s) Holy, devout (Titus 1:8)
- (t) Self-controlled (Titus 1:8)

ARTICLE 19

VACANCIES IN THE ELDER BOARD

Any Elder may resign effective upon giving written notice to the Chairman of the Board or the Secretary of the Board, unless the notice specifies a later time for the effectiveness of such resignation. If the resignation is to take effect at some future time, a successor may be selected before that time.

A vacancy or vacancies in the Board shall be deemed to exist in case of the death, resignation, or removal of any Elder.

ARTICLE 20

REMOVAL OF ELDERS

Any Elder may be removed from office at any regular or special meeting of the Board if he is found to be physically or mentally incapacitated or spiritually unqualified (according to pertinent Scripture, including 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9), after thorough corroborating investigation by the Elders (or a duly appointed Committee of the Board), in accord with the procedures prescribed by pertinent Scripture, including Matthew 18:15-18 and 1 Timothy 5:19. When an Elder is removed because of sin that is deemed sufficient to disqualify him from shepherding, and if he refuses to repent from that sin, the removal shall be accompanied by a public rebuke, and notice shall be made before the church and the congregation thereof at a regularly-scheduled worship service as prescribed in 1 Timothy 5:20.

ARTICLE 21

ELDER MEETINGS

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary provided in these Bylaws, any meeting (whether regular or special,) of the Board of Elders of the Corporation may be held at any place within or without the State of Wyoming.

Regular meetings of the Board shall be held as necessary.

Special meetings of the Board of Elders may be called at any time by order of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman or the Secretary of the Board of Elders or by a quorum of the members of the Board of Elders.

Except as otherwise provided herein, a majority of the Elders currently serving shall constitute a quorum. Whenever the matter to be considered concerns calling or dismissing a pastor, or buying or selling real estate, a quorum shall consist of not less than two-thirds of the members of the Board. The act or decision done or made by the Elders present at a meeting duly held at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Elders. Members of the Board may participate in a meeting through use of conference telephone or similar communications equipment, so long as all members participating in such meeting can hear one another.

Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Board may be taken without a meeting if all members of the Board shall individually or collectively consent in writing to a duly prepared resolution to such action. Such consent or consents shall have the same effect as a unanimous vote of the Board and shall be documented by attaching the signed resolution with the minutes of proceedings of the Board.

Decisions shall be reached after prayerful consideration by unanimous vote in a spirit of humility, with each Elder regarding one another before himself.

ARTICLE 22

RIGHTS OF INSPECTION BY AN ELDER

Every Elder shall have the absolute right at any reasonable time to inspect and copy all books, records, and documents of every kind and to inspect the physical properties of the Corporation of which such person is an Elder, for a purpose reasonably related to such person's interest as an Elder.

ARTICLE 23

DEACONS

The Deacons shall consist of members possessing the qualifications described in 1 Timothy 3:8-13 and shall be nominated by members of the church. The Board of Elders will compile and confirm the nominations and submit the names to the members for affirmation at the annual meeting. The Deacons shall assist the Elders in the shepherding of the saints, assist the Pastor at Communion and baptismal services, aid in the general spiritual care of the church, and perform other duties as assigned by the Board of Elders.

A Deacon shall be a man of dignity, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not fond of sordid gain, holding to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience, first tested and found above reproach.

Any Deacon may be removed from office at any regular or special meeting of the Board if he is found to be physically or mentally incapacitated or spiritually unqualified (according to pertinent Scripture, including 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9), after thorough corroborating investigation by the Elders (or a duly appointed Committee of the Board) in accord with the procedures prescribed by pertinent Scripture, including Matthew 18:15-18 and 1 Timothy 5:19. When a Deacon is removed because of sin that is deemed sufficient to disqualify him from serving, and if he refuses to repent from that sin, the removal shall be made before the church and the congregation thereof at a regularly-scheduled worship service as prescribed in 1 Timothy 5:20.

ARTICLE 24

DEACONNESS

The Deaconesses shall consist of members possessing the qualifications described in 1 Timothy 3:11 and Titus 2:3-5, Romans 16: 1, and shall be nominated by members of the church. The Board of Elders will compile and confirm the nominations and submit the names to the members for affirmation at the annual meeting. A Deaconess shall be dignified, not a malicious gossip, temperate, and faithful in all things.

Any Deaconess may be removed from office at any regular or special meeting of the Board if she is found to be physically or mentally incapacitated or spiritually unqualified (according to pertinent Scripture, including 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9), after thorough corroborating investigation by the Elders (or a duly appointed Committee of the Board), in accord with the procedures prescribed by pertinent Scripture, including Matthew 18:15-18 and 1 Timothy 5:19. When a Deaconess is removed because of sin that is deemed sufficient to disqualify her from serving, and if she refuses to repent from that sin, the removal shall be made before the church and the congregation thereof at a regularly-scheduled worship service as prescribed in 1 Timothy 5:20.

ARTICLE 25 **USHERS**

Whenever Ushers are established in this church, the Ushers shall consist of members to be nominated by members of the church. The Board of Elders will compile and confirm the nominations and submit the names to the members for affirmation at the annual meeting. The Ushers shall serve for a term of one (1) year. They shall act as church ushers, greeters at the door, church collectors, and assist the Pastor in the services in such matters as he deems necessary. An Usher shall meet the qualifications enumerated for a Deacon in Section 2 above.

ARTICLE 26 **NOMINATIONS, SELECTIONS AND VACANCIES**

The nomination and selection of Deacons, Deaconesses, and Ushers shall be done in the same manner as for Elders, as set forth in Article 17 of these Bylaws, except they shall be affirmed at the annual meeting by the members of the church. In the event any of the above-mentioned offices becomes vacant during the period between annual elections, the Board of Elders may fill such vacancy for the unexpired term.

ARTICLE 27 **OFFICERS / CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN**

The Elder Board shall appoint a Chairman and he shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Elders, which are to be conducted according to the scriptural principles such as set forth in Philippians 2:2-8. In the absence or disability of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall perform all the duties of the Chairman, and when so acting shall have all the powers of, and be subject to all the restrictions upon, the Chairman. The Vice-Chairman shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as from time to time may be prescribed for him by the Board of Elders

ARTICLE 28 **OFFICERS / TREASURER**

The Treasurer shall ensure the stewardship of the physical and financial resources of the Corporation, "taking precaution that no one should discredit us in our administration...for we have regard for what is honorable, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men" (2 Corinthians 8:20-21) The Treasurer shall ensure that all financial activities and transactions are consistent with pertinent Articles of these Bylaws.

The Treasurer shall keep and maintain, or cause to be kept and maintained, adequate and correct accounts of the properties and business transactions of the Corporation. The books of account shall at all reasonable times be open to inspection by any Elder as The Treasurer shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, all monies and other valuables in the name and to the credit of the Corporation with such depositories as may be designated by the Board of Elders.

He shall disburse, or cause to be disbursed, the funds of the Corporation as may be ordered by the Board of Elders, shall render, or cause to be rendered, to the Chairman and the Elders, whenever they request it, an account of all the transactions and of the financial condition of the Corporation, and shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Elders. He shall make, or cause to be made, the financial reports at each regular Board meeting and at the annual meeting of members.

ARTICLE 29

OFFICERS / SECRETARY

The Secretary shall keep, or cause to be kept, a book of minutes at the principal office or such other place as the Board of Elders may order, of all meetings of the members, the Board and its committees, with the time and place of holding, whether regular or special, and if special, how authorized, the notice thereof given, the names of those present at the meetings, the Board and committees' meetings, and the proceedings thereof.

The Secretary shall keep, or cause to be kept, a copy of the Church's Constitution, Bylaws, and Statements of Faith, as amended to date. The Secretary shall give, or cause to be given, notice of all meetings of the Board and any committees thereof required by these Bylaws or by law to be given, and shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as prescribed by the Board. The Secretary shall keep, or cause to be kept at the principal office of the Church, a church membership register, or a duplicated membership register, showing the names of the members and their addresses.

ARTICLE 30

SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

In any dispute arising between church members, pastors, or staff pertaining to any matter of spiritual teaching or practices, church finances, or title to property purchased with church contributions, the dispute shall be resolved by the Board of Elders of the church (or a duly appointed Committee of the Board, per Article VI, Section 17 of these Bylaws, at the sole discretion of the Board). A decision shall be reached after prayerful consideration, in a spirit of humility, with each Elder regarding one another before himself and striving to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Ephesians 4:1-3).

ARTICLE 31

AMENDMENTS / RECORDING / REPEALING

These Bylaws may be amended and new and additional Bylaws may be made at any time by the Board of Elders in the exercise of the power granted to said Board of Elders in these Bylaws. Whenever an amendment or new Bylaw is adopted, it shall be copied in the book of minutes with the original Bylaws, in the appropriate place. If any Bylaw is repealed, the fact of repeal with the date of the meeting at which the repeal was enacted or written record was filed shall be stated in said book.

ARTICLE 32

RECEIPTS, INVESTMENTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF FUNDS

The Corporation shall receive all monies or other properties transferred to it for the purposes for which the Corporation was formed (as shown by the Articles of Incorporation). However, nothing contained herein shall require the Board of Elders to accept or receive any money or property of any kind if it shall determine in its discretion that receipt of such money or property is contrary to the expressed purposes of the Corporation as shown by said Articles. The Corporation shall hold, manage, and disburse any funds or properties received by it from any source in a manner that is consistent with the expressed purposes of this Corporation.

ARTICLE 33 CORPORATE RECORDS, REPORTS & INSPECTIONS OF THEM

The Corporation shall maintain adequate and correct accounts, books, and records of its business and properties. All such books, records, and accounts shall be kept at its principal place of business (LBC) in the State of Wyoming, as fixed by the Board of Elders from time to time.

Every Elder shall have the absolute right at any reasonable time to inspect all books, records, documents of every kind, and the physical properties of the Corporation, and also of its subsidiary organizations, if any.

ARTICLE 34 FISCAL YEAR OF THE CORPORATION

The fiscal year of the Corporation shall begin on the first day of January and end on the last day of December in each year.

ARTICLE 35 DISSOLUTION

Upon dissolution of this Corporation, the Board of Elders shall cause the assets herein to be distributed to another Corporation with purposes similar to that identified in Article II of these Bylaws and Article II of the Articles of Incorporation as amended.

ARTICLE 36 PERFORMING MARRIAGE CEREMONIES

Article 36 was adopted on November 30th, 2014 by unanimous approval of the congregation. and reads as follows:

We believe and teach that the institution of marriage was ordained by God and we also believe and teach that the institution of marriage is between one man and one woman only. *Genesis 2: 23 – 24, Matthew 19: 4 – 6, Mark 10: 6 – 9*

We believe that a marriage union between two men or two women violates the clear teaching of scripture against same sex marriages or relationships. *First Corinthians 6: 9, Leviticus 18: 22, Romans 1: 26 – 27*

Based on the clear teaching of scripture, the Pastor(s), Elder(s) or any member of Lighthouse Bible Church qualified to perform marriage ceremonies will not perform any same sex marriages. All other requests to perform marriage ceremonies, unless otherwise stated, will be left to their discretion to perform.

Discussed and agreed upon by the current Elder and Deacon Board on November 21st, 2014: Dale Adams, Mike Allen, Gary Horton & Warren Hess

*Brought before the membership of Lighthouse Bible Church on: **November 30th, 2014** and received **unanimous** approval for the addendum.*

ARTICLE 37

STATEMENT ON GENDER, SEXUALITY AND LIFE

We believe that God created each person as a male and female that both together reflect the image and nature of God (*Genesis 1: 26 – 27*). Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person. We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other (*1st Corinthians 6: 18, 7: 2 – 5, Hebrews 13: 4*).

We believe that any form of sexual immorality, including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, transgender behavior, incest and use of pornography is sinful and offensive to God (*Matthew 19: 4 – 6, Matthew 15: 18 – 20, 1st Corinthians 6: 9 – 10, Matthew 5: 27 – 32, Leviticus 18: 22, 1st Timothy 1: 9 – 11*).

We believe that human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. (*Psalms 139: 13 – 16, Job 10: 8 – 11, 31: 15, Jeremiah 1: 5, Isaiah 44: 2*).

ARTICLE 38

STATEMENT ON MEDIATION

Members and regular attenders of the church agree to submit any legal dispute with the church for mediation before a mutually agreed upon mediator or mediators. Lawsuits between believers, or threats of lawsuits between believers, are a matter of grave concern for the unity and preservation of peace in the church and are contrary to biblical and church teaching. (*1st Corinthians 6: 1 – 7*).

Mediator(s) will attempt to assist in reaching a voluntary settlement of any disputes through mediation and will remain a confidential matter. No communications in the mediation process will be admissible for any purpose in any subsequent legal proceeding.

ARTICLE 10.1 RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS

Members shall seek to exercise their spiritual gifts for the mutual benefit of all the church body, give regularly of their tithes and offerings and shall submit to the rule of the Elders. In addition, we believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity and peace of Lighthouse Bible Church as a local body of Christ and to provide a biblical role model to the church, members and the community, it is imperative that all members, employed or volunteer, working in any capacity agree to and abide by our addendums to; Gender, Sexuality, Life and Mediation.

ARTICLE 39

REQUIREMENTS FOR SERVING; MEMBER/NON-MEMBER

We believe that membership in the local body, as stated in Articles 5 – 10 in this document, should be a goal and important step in the life of an individual desiring to regularly attend and serve here at Lighthouse Bible Church. We believe that membership is important for the preservation, unity and peace of the church as well as one's demonstration of commitment to serving the institution that Christ started and sacrificed Himself for and is in the midst of (*Acts 20: 28 – 30, Jude 1: 4, Revelation 2 – 3, Ephesians 4: 1 – 16, Romans 12: 1 – 8*).

For that reason, we believe that in order for someone to serve in any type of teaching capacity to any age group, whether in the church building or at some other location as a representative of LBC, they must be a member in good standing. This would include but not be limited to any Bible study group, men's or women's groups, children's groups, or other teaching ministry where the person is teaching on behalf of LBC.

We also believe that any person, who leads the LBC worship, whether in Scripture reading, music worship or director or leader of a musical or other type of program of worship, must be a member in good standing.

We also believe that any person who serves on the Missions Group, Budget Committee or in the Nursery, as a teacher or with oversight of the children, must be a member in good standing.

Articles 37, 38, 10.1 & 39 were all presented and enacted, with full support, at the February 26th, 2017 informational business meeting